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Kizu

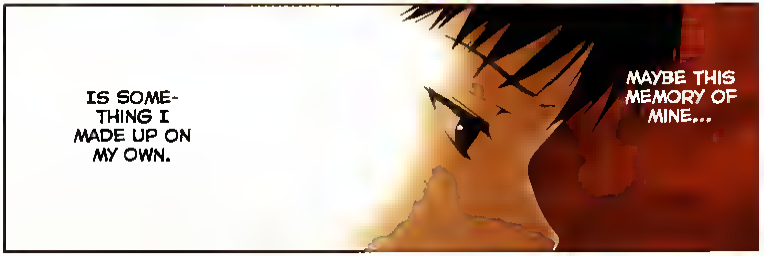
Story Otsuichi
Art: Kiyohara Hiro

Scans & Translation
Kalendel
Edit
ngoctram631992

AND PAT MY HEAD AS I STOOD NEARBY AND WATCHED.

HE BUILT ME A DOG HOUSE,

BUT I CAN STILL REMEMBER A TIME WHEN HE WAS NICE.



傷
Kizu
Story
原作
乙一
Otsuichi
Art
漫画
清原紘
Hiro

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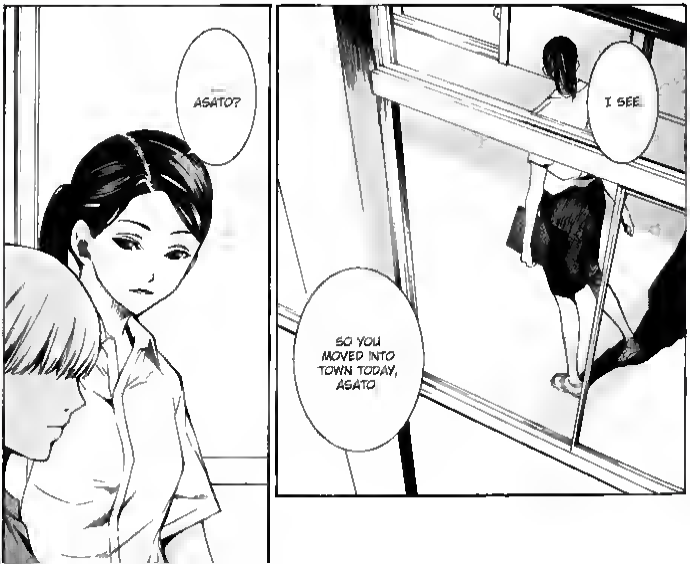
Chapter 1

...HEY GUYS, DO YOU KNOW...
THE WOMAN FROM THE ICE CREAM SHOP IN FRONT OF THE PARK?
YEAH, THE ONE WHO ALWAYS WEARS A MASK, RIGHT?
I COULD ALWAYS SEE HER FROM MY FAMILY'S [illegible].
AND SHE NEVER EVER TAKES IT OFF
THAT WHOEVER SEES UNDER THAT MASK WILL GET CURSED...
...WHAT, REALLY?
AH I HEARD THAT TOO
BUT I HEARD FROM A KID IN CLASS 2...
5—1
WHAT CRAP...
HEY

WHAT IS IT?

I HEARD YOU GOT THOSE BURNS.
FROM YOUR DADDY.

EH?
HEY, SAY SOME-THING
HEY,
YOUR DAD DID IT, DIDN'T HE?


ASATO?
SO YOU MOVED INTO TOWN TODAY, ASATO
I SEE.

CRASH
AHH!
!?
...
AH...

BUT THAT'S WHAT EVERYONE SAYS THAT YOUR DAD...
W--WHAT THE HELL.
CLAT
TER
WHAT'S GOING ON!?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING!?
STOP IT!
SMASH
SMASH

EEK!
I'M SORRY!
SORR—
SLAM
SLAM

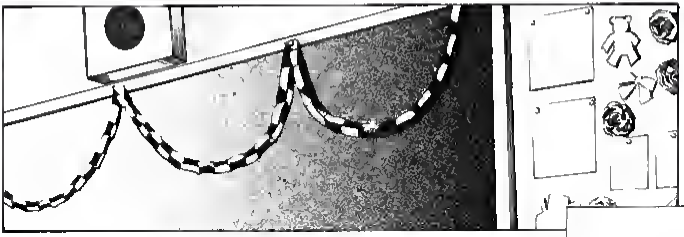
STOP IT!
WHAT HAP-PENED!?
!
?

AS A RESULT, THEY DECIDED TO PLACE ME IN A SPECIAL CLASS.

AND DISCUSSED MY EMOTIONAL PROBLEMS.

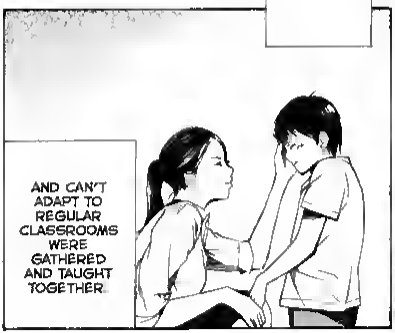
THAT THE NEXT DAY, ALL THE ADULTS AROUND ME LOOKED INTO MY SITUATION AT HOME...

IT TURNS OUT...

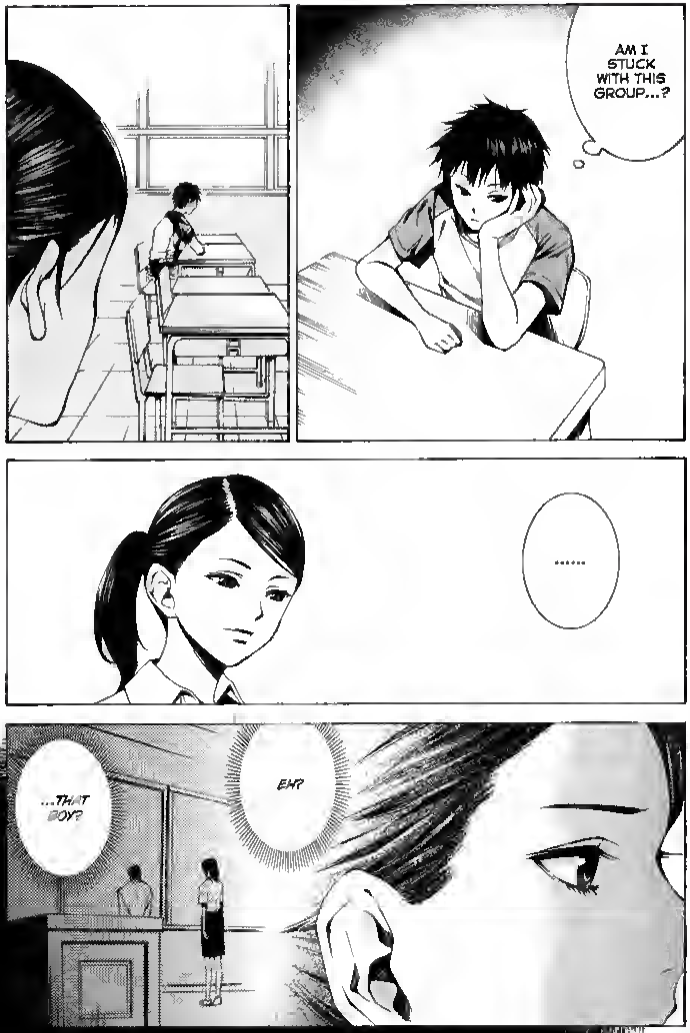


IT'S WHERE KIDS WHO HAVE SOME KIND OF HANDICAP...

AND CAN'T ADAPT TO REGULAR CLASSROOMS WERE GATHERED AND TAUGHT TOGETHER.



CHILDREN WITH PROBLEMS WERE ALL GATHERED IN THIS CLASS.


AM I STUCK WITH THIS GROUP...?
.....
EH?
...THAT BOY?

I'M NOT SURE THAT I CAN TAKE ON A BOY LIKE THAT ON TOP OF ALL THE OTHERS.
.....
THE CHILDREN IN MY CLASS NOW ARE ENOUGH TO KEEP MY HANDS FULL.
DO YOU HAVE A PROBLEM WITH THAT?
MA'AM.
KEIGO
WHAT IS IT?
MA'AM?
AH,
YES?

SO YOU SHOULD HELP ME CLEAN IT UP, MA AM
EH? SURE...
CLATTER.
LOOK...
THIS KID WAS RUNNING AROUND AND KNOCKED OVER MY PUDDING.
SPLSH

YOU...
WEREN'T ANGRY AT HIM?
I WASN'T FEELING SO GREAT,
TURN
SO I WASN'T EATING IT ANYWAY
...BUT
OH—
THAT KID'S STILL A FIRST-GRADER.
HE DIDN'T MEAN ANYTHING BY IT
HE COULDN'T HELP IT.

EH?
KEIGO.
WOULD YOU LIKE...
MY PUDDING?

CAN I!?
.....
NO ONE HERE TEASES ME.
I SOON GREW TO LIKE THE CLASS.
CHILDREN SMILING-
IS HARD TO FIND IN OTHER PLACES—
WHAT YOU SEE HERE IN THIS CLASS-ROOM...

A FEW WEEKS LATER
I'M GOING TO INTRODUCE A NEW FRIEND TO EVERYONE TODAY
THIS IS ASATO
THAT'S THE KID FROM BEFORE...

ASATO,
WOULD YOU MIND TAKING THAT EMPTY SEAT?
CLATTER
I'M KEIGO.
NICE TO MEET YOU.
... ..
?
WEIRDO.

ASATO ALWAYS KEPT TO HIMSELF.
OUR TEACHER SPOKE TO HIM MORE GENTLY THAN ANYONE ELSE,
BUT HE WOULDN'T TALK TO ANYONE.
THERE ARE OTHER KIDS IN THE SPECIAL CLASS WHO WON'T TALK TO ANYONE.
IT'S NOT THAT UNCOMMON.
BUT THERE'S SOMETHING...
Whee!
Whee!
COULD YOU COME HERE...?
IT'S LIKE THERE'S SOMETHING DIFFERENT ABOUT HIM.
KEIGO
Hmm

Staff
JUST WHAT IS THIS!?
JUST WHAT ARE YOU TEACHING AT THIS SCHOOL!?
LOOK AT MY BOY'S ARMS!
THERE ARE TEETH MARKS! BITES!
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO IF THIS LEAVES SCARS!?
ARE YOU LISTEN-ING!?

THIS BOY HERE WILL TELL YOU THE SAME THING IF WE COULD TALK SOME MORE...
THAT'S ENOUGH FROM YOU!
I DON'T BELIEVE YOU!
THAT HAP-PENED...
BECAUSE HE WAS BULLY-ING THE KIDS IN MY CLASS.
UM... IF YOU COULD PLEASE CALM DOWN A LITTLE...
AND TO PUNISH MY BOY FOR IT...
THAT BOY ISN'T NORMAL!
I BET HE DOESN'T HAVE A MOTHER!
THAT, OR IT'S HIS FATHER'S FAULT!

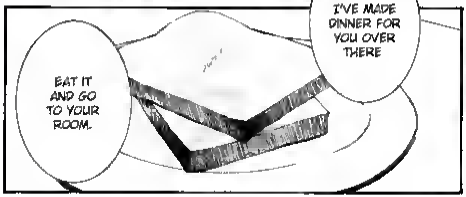
WHAT IS THIS?

THIS IS WHAT IT'S COME TO, HUH ..
SO...
I HEARD A NEW KID ENTERED YOUR SPECIAL CLASS
HE'S THE BOY OF THAT FAMILY THAT WAS IN THE NEWS, RIGHT?
IT MUST BE HARD ON YOU.. TO KEEP HAVING SUCH TROUBLED CHILDREN THROWN AT YOU..

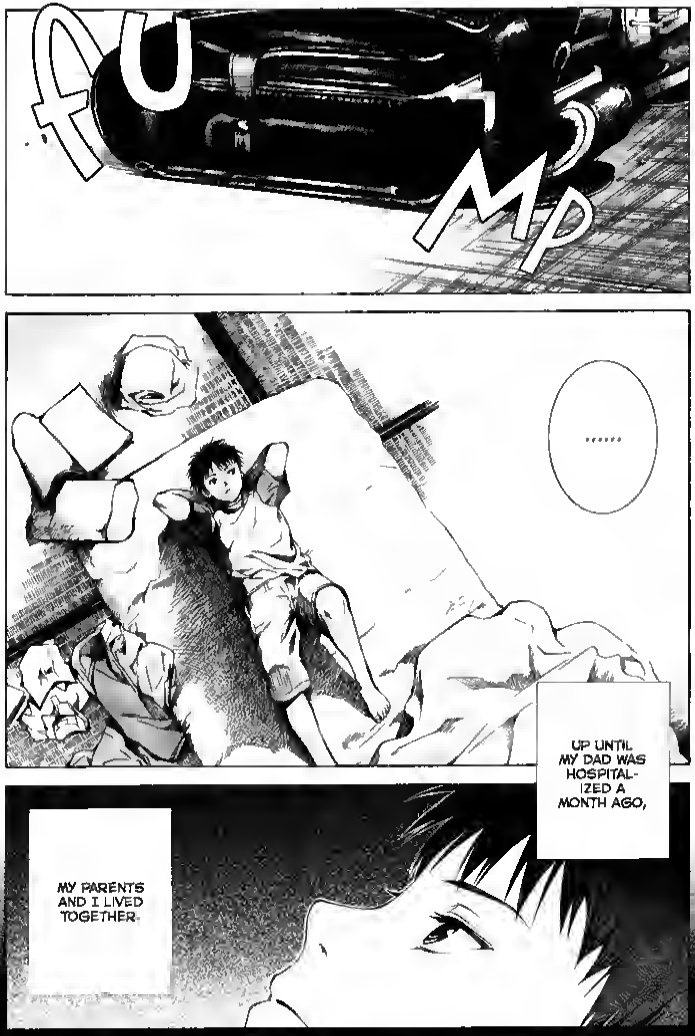
THEY'RE TALKING ABOUT ASATO...?
THAT HE STILL WON'T TALK TO ANYONE NO MATTER WHAT YOU DO IS THAT RIGHT?
IT'S OKAY. I HEARD...
IT'S NOT...
YES. WELL.
I BET IT HAS TO DO WITH THE FACT THAT HIS MOTHER'S IN JAIL
PLUS THE FOLKS HE'S LIVING WITH NOW ARE SUCH DISTANT RELATIVES...
...

ASATO...
IS JUST LIKE ME—
HE'S SUCH A GOOD-LOOKING BOY, TOO...
IT'S A PITY.

YOU'RE HOME REALLY LATE TODAY


I'VE MADE DINNER FOR YOU OVER THERE
EAT IT AND GO TO YOUR ROOM.

I FELT CONNECTED TO ASATO...
CLACK
SINCE I ALSO LIVE IN A HOUSE WITH STRANGERS.


fu
mp
.....
UP UNTIL MY DAD WAS HOSPITAL-IZED A MONTH AGO,
MY PARENTS AND I LIVED TOGETHER.

MY DAD'S A VIOLENT DRUNK,
AND WOULD ALWAYS SCREAM AT MY MOM AND I.
I WAS TOLD HE USED TO HAVE A REGULAR JOB,
BUT HE HADN'T HAD ONE FOR A WHILE.
AND HE'D HIT MY MOM AND I ALL THE TIME
HE WOULD BREAK THINGS THAT IRRITATED HIM AND THROW THINGS AROUND.

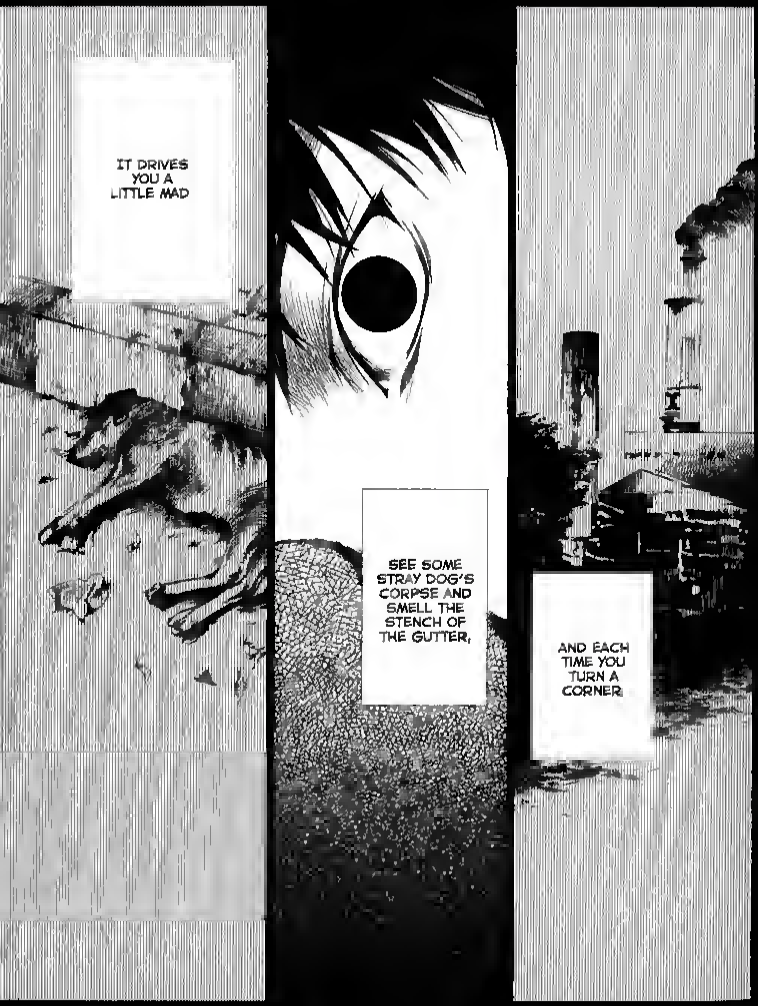
MY MOM ENDURED IT THE WHOLE TIME.
BUT ...
WHEN MY DAD WAS HOSPITALIZED, SHE GOT THIS EMPTY EXPRESSION ON HER FACE.
HE WAS DIAGNOSED WITH A TERMINAL ILLNESS, AND WAS PAST SAVING
I FIGURED I COULD LIVE A PEACEFUL LIFE WITH MY MOM, THEN.

I HAVE SOME SHOPPING TO DO.
I'M ALSO STOPPING BY THE POST OFFICE, SO IT MIGHT BE A WHILE.
KEIGO,
SURE.
SEE YOU LATER.

MY MOM NEVER CAME BACK.

IN THE DARKNESS,
AS I KEPT WAITING FOR A MOTHER WHO WOULDN'T RETURN,
I CONSIDERED THINGS.
I WAS TOLD THAT AN AUNT AND UNCLE WERE COMING
WHEN THEY FOUND OUT I WAS ALONE.
IT REALLY IS UNFORTUNATE.
BUT, DON'T WORRY ANYMORE.
WE'LL TAKE ON THE RESPONSIBILITY OF CARING FOR YOU.
BUT...
THEY JUST WANTED THE HOUSE

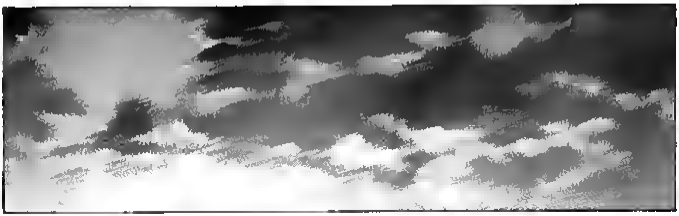
NO MATTER HOW FAR YOU WALK IN LIFE,
YOU'LL FIND FILTHY ALLEY-WAYS...

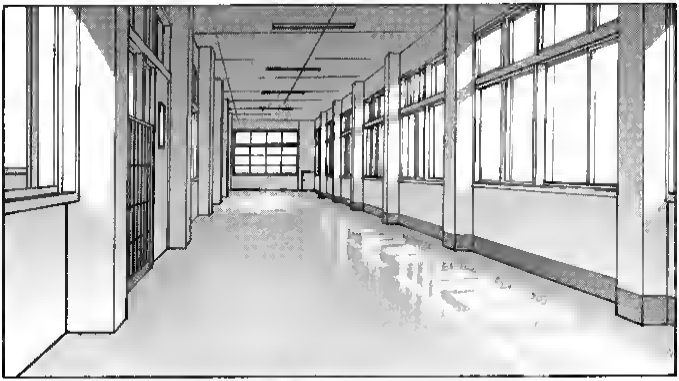

IT DRIVES YOU A LITTLE MAD
SEE SOME STRAY DOG'S CORPSE AND SMELL THE STENCH OF THE GUTTER,
AND EACH TIME YOU TURN A CORNER

MAYBE
THAT...

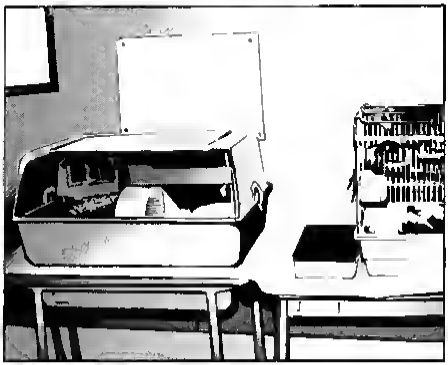
IS WHAT THIS
WORLD DOES
TO YOU...

WHEN HE WENT INTO THIS DARKNESS...
I WONDER WHAT HE THOUGHT.
I'M HUNGRY



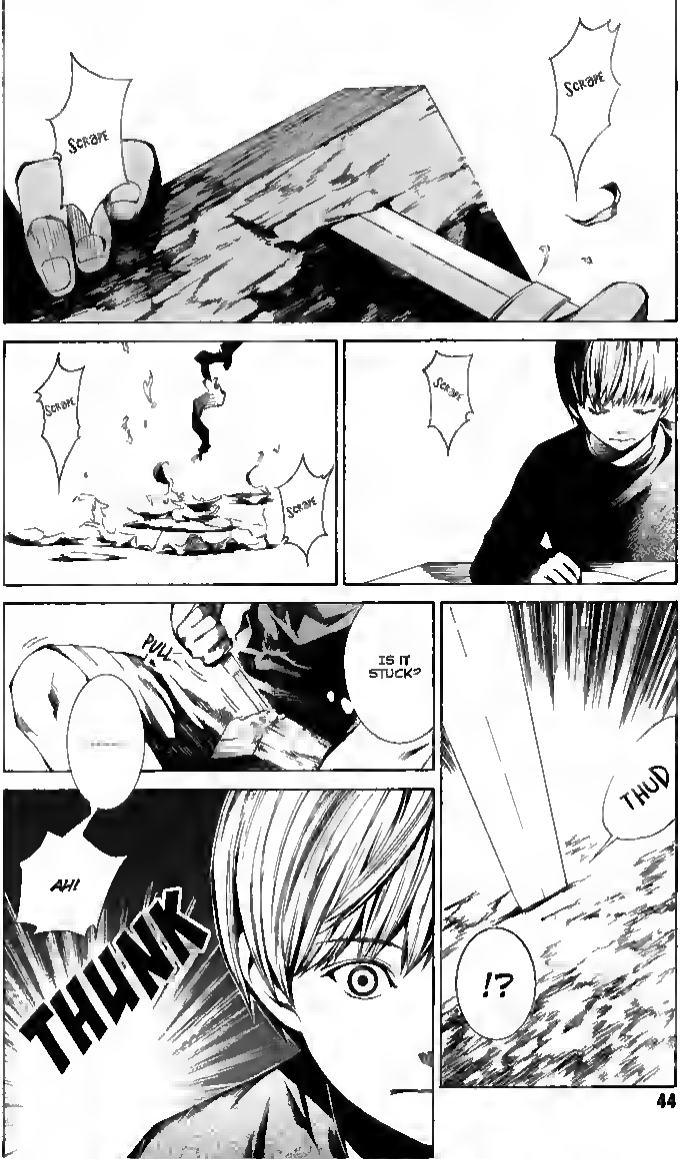


YES, I'M DONE!



HMM...
NOT BAD, FOR ME!
NEXT UP... HOW ABOUT I MAKE A DOG?
HEY!
BYE BYE
YEAH.
SEEYA.

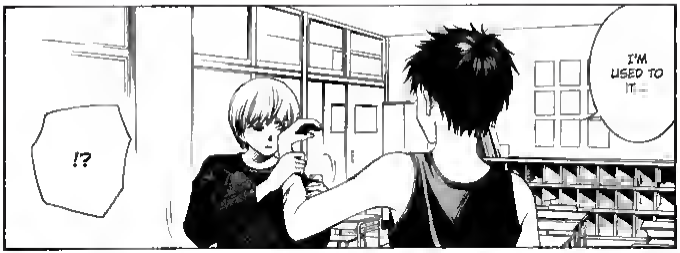
THAT GUY...
DOESN'T WANT TO GO HOME EITHER.

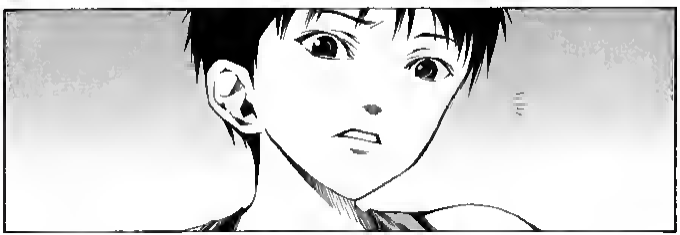

SCRAPE
SCRAPE
SCRAPE
SCRAPE
SCRAPE
PULL
IS IT STUCK?
THUD
!?
AH!
THUNK

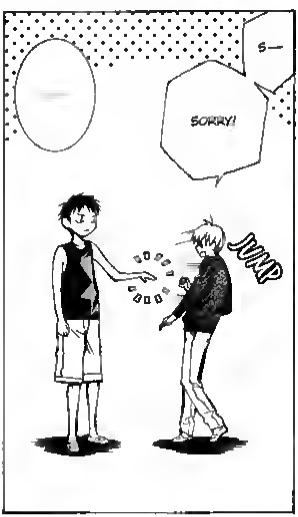
UH!
DRIP
GAH!
UMM...
WHERE'S THE FIRST AID KIT?
UTTER
ARE YOU OKAY...?

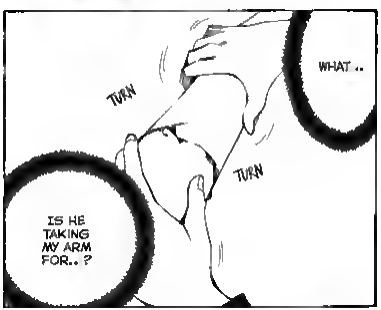
YOU'RE HURT

EH? YEAH...
WELL, A CUT LIKE THIS IS NOTHING
RAISE


I'M USED TO IT...
!?

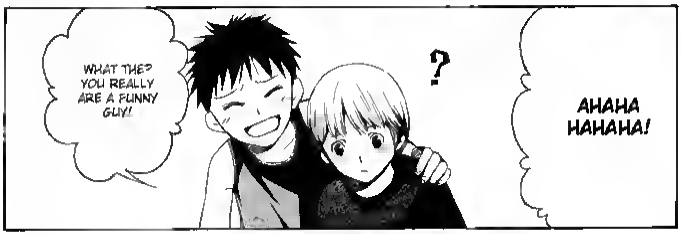



S—
SORRY!
JUMP


WHAT ..
TURN
TURN
IS HE TAKING MY ARM FOR..?

Ah!

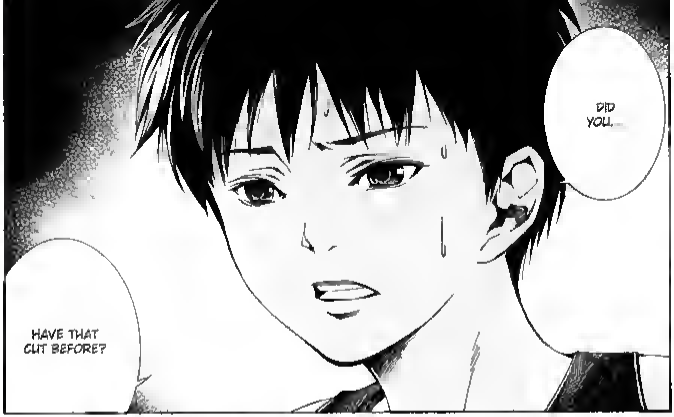
I WAS THINKING
THE CUT WOULD CLOSE IF I DID THAT
HAH!


?
AHAHA HAHAHA!
WHAT THE? YOU REALLY ARE A FUNNY GUY!

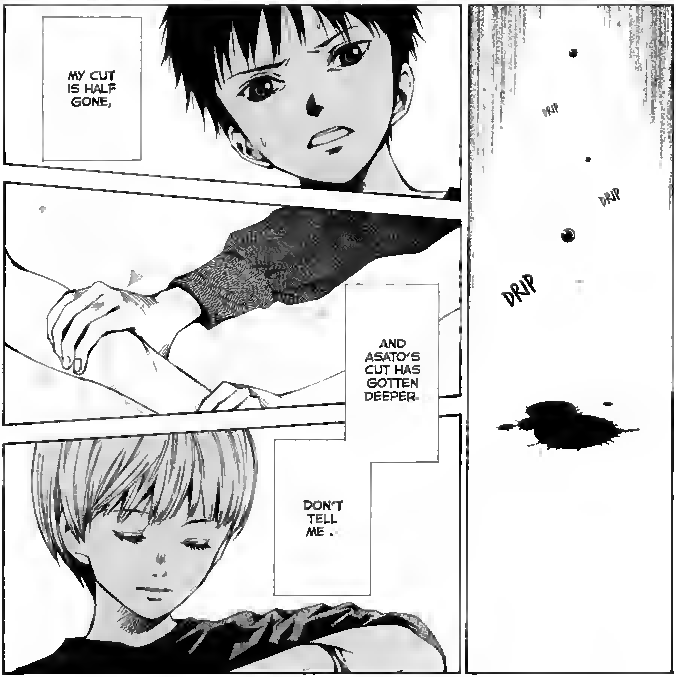
HUH?

LOOKS A LOT MORE SHALLOW THAN BEFORE...!
MY CUT...

ASATO'S ARM IS ALSO...
CUT IN THE SAME PLACE WHERE I SLICED MINE...


DID YOU...
HAVE THAT CUT BEFORE?

HEY...
CAN I TRY THE SAME THING AGAIN?


MY CUT IS HALF GONE,
AND ASATO'S CUT HAS GOTTEN DEEPER.
DON'T TELL ME.
DRIP
DRIP
DRIP

HE'S ABSORBING THE CUT?

RIGHT?

AFTER THAT DAY...
ASATO AND I WERE SUDDENLY FRIENDS.

Infirmary
WAAH
WAAH!

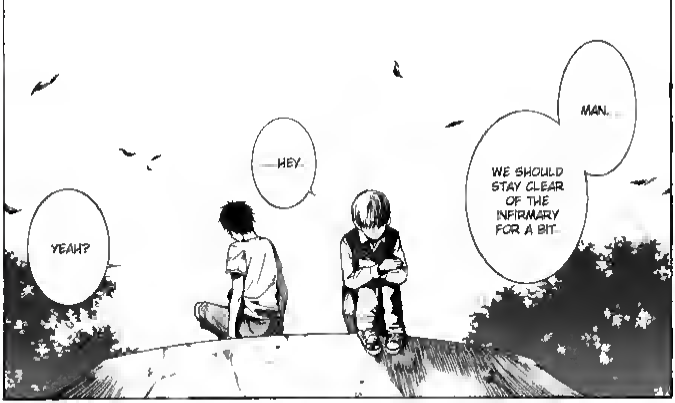
HEY!
TARGET ACQUIRED, ASATO!
Y—
YEAH.
PEEK
DON'T WORRY, IT'S FINE
LET US SEE IT
YOU SKINNED YOUR ELBOW, RIGHT?
OF COURSE, WE KEPT IT TO THE KIDS WITH SMALL INJURIES.
AND ASATO WOULD EXPERIMENT WITH ABSORBING THE INJURIES OF THE YOUNGER KIDS.
WE'D LIE IN WAIT IN FRONT OF THE INFIRMARY,

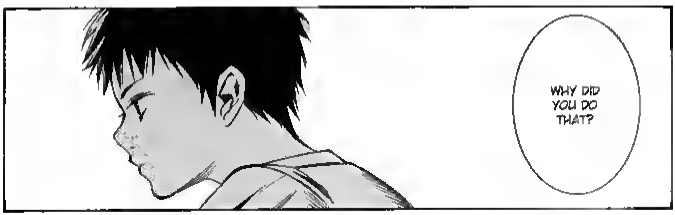
WE ALSO FIGURED OUT THAT NO MATTER WHERE ASATO TOUCHED A PERSON, HE COULD STILL DO IT.

AND BEFORE LONG HE COULD DO IT IN AN INSTANT.

HE WAS GRADUALLY ABLE TO ABSORB INJURIES FASTER,

RUN FOR IT, ASATO!
DASH
.....
GAH!
YOU TWO HAVE BEEN HANGING AROUND THE INFIRMARY A LOT LATELY
GLINT


MAN...
WE SHOULD STAY CLEAR OF THE INFIRMARY FOR A BIT.
HEY.
YEAH?


WHY DID YOU DO THAT?

ASATO
.....
.....
DO WHAT?
WHAT YOU WERE DOING WHEN WE FIRST MET

MY DAD
GAVE ME THESE BURNS
HE THREW AN IRON AROUND WHEN HE WAS DRUNK.
THAT'S WHAT THESE ARE FROM.
THOSE KIDS WERE MAKING FUN OF THEM WHEN I CHANGED CLOTHES,
SO I GAVE IT RIGHT BACK TO THEM.
—

BUT THAT'S WHY HURTING PEOPLE IS SO WRONG
.....
BUT...
WHAT IS IT?
I WONDER...
IF I CAN DO ANY-THING...
REACH

?
THAT NIGHT, WHEN I WAS CHANGING,
I FIGURED OUT WHAT HE HAD MEANT BY THAT.
...!?
THEY'RE GONE—

MY SCARS ...
DISAP-PEARED ...!?
ASATO
MY SCARS ...
GIVE THEM BACK
MORNING.

ASATO JUST SMILED
NO MATTER WHAT I SAID,

INJURIES WEREN'T THE ONLY THING THAT ASATO COULD ABSORB
SOON...
HE WAS ALSO ABLE TO ABSORB BURNS AND OLD SCARS.

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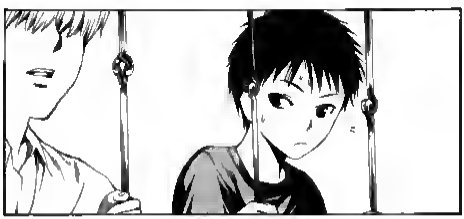
Chapter 2

MAN...
RATTLE RATTLE
IT'S HOT...

ASATO?

HEY, ASATO
DO YOU HAVE ENOUGH MONEY TO BUY ICE CREAM?
SUMMER'S ALREADY OVER, TOO

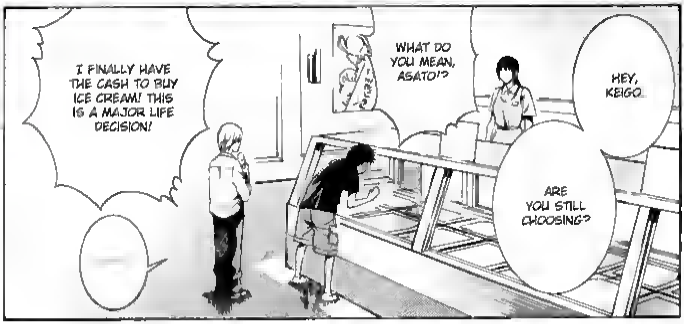


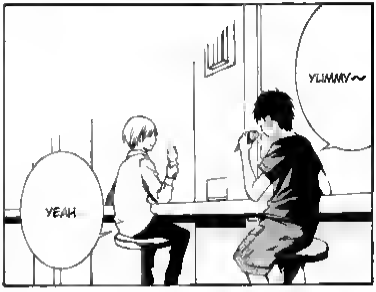
LIKE THAT GIRL FELL DOWN AND HURT HERSELF.
IT LOOKS
JUST IGNORE HER
ASAITO!

ASATO HAS A STRANGE ABILITY.
HE CAN TAKE THE WOUNDS OF OTHERS ONTO HIMSELF.
THESE DAYS, IT'S GOTTEN TO THE POINT...
WHERE HE CAN EVEN ABSORB BURNS AND OLD SCARS IN AN INSTANT

IT LOOKS LIKE SHE STOPPED CRYING THANKS
THERE MUST BE SOMETHING I CAN DO TO MAKE UP FOR IT
OH?
It doesn't hurt?
YOU'RE FINE NOW
PIT
Ah!
—AH!
ICE CREAM.
WE'LL TAKE ICE CREAM.
ICE.
ICE CREAM.

HMM
stare
ICE CREAM
Zoo
Zoo


I FINALLY HAVE THE CASH TO BUY ICE CREAM! THIS IS A MAJOR LIFE DECISION!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, ASATO!?
HEY, KEIGO...
ARE YOU STILL CHOOSING?


YUMMY~
YEAH

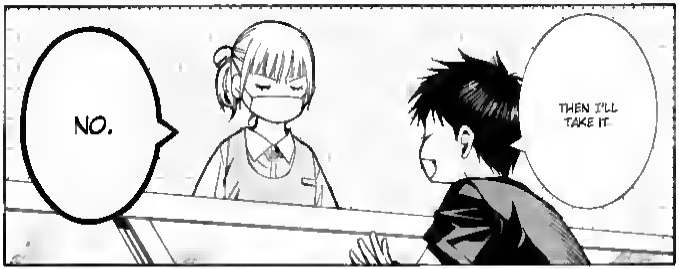
THANK YOU FOR COMING
A MASK ...

THE WOMAN FROM THE ICE CREAM SHOP IN FRONT OF THE PARK...
WHOEVER SEES UNDER THAT MASK WILL GET CURSED...
DID THEY MEAN THIS SHOP...?

EH?
WHAT HAPPENS TO THE ICE CREAM YOU DON'T SELL?

HEY
Joh

DO YOU TOSS IT OR SAVE IT FOR THE NEXT DAY?
GOTTA BE
IT GETS OLD AFTER IT SITS FOR A COUPLE DAYS. RIGHT?
YES, IT DOES


THEN I'LL TAKE IT.
NO.

OH, THAT SO?
LET'S GO, ASAITO.
SEEYA, SHIHO.

HOW DO YOU KNOW MY NAME?
IT'S ON YOUR NAME TAG.
GREEN TEA
VANILLA
YOU CAN READ ROMAN LETTERS?
OF COURSE I CAN!
?
DEPENDING ON THE CIRCUMSTANCES, I MIGHT JUST BE ABLE TO GIVE YOU THE OLD ICE CREAM.
EH!?
jalt

IT ISN'T FREE
...HE'S KIND OF LIKE A DOG.
Doesn't really get it
R-R-R-R-REALLY?
RUB
RUB
HOW— EV— ER.
AFTER THAT,
WE'D GO TO SHIMO'S SHOP EVERY DAY.
RUB
RUB

SLAM
WHEW
rub
rub
OWW! WHAT WAS THAT FOR!?
I don't get you!
NOW NOW, NO SLACKING OFF
IF YOU DON'T DO IT, I WON'T GIVE YOU ICE CREAM.
Ah!
WHY IS ASATO ALREADY EATING SOME!?
OH?
ENOUGH WITH THE "OHS"! WHY DOES ASATO GET SPECIAL TREATMENT!?
munch munch

SHE WAS KIND,
AND SHE ACTUALLY LISTENED TO WHAT KIDS LIKE US SAID.
"WHY"...
Hm.
HE—
HE'S JUST SO CUTE
HUGGLE
This lady is.
.....
SHIHO ...
WAS A LITTLE DIFFERENT FROM ALL THE ADULTS I KNEW

SHE NEVER TOOK THE MASK OFF IN FRONT OF US.
BUT...
THAT DIDN'T MATTER.
SHE NEVER BELITTLED US OR ANY-THING LIKE THAT.

HM?
ASATO,
YOU TAKE THE TABLES
SURE...
YOU'RE COVERED IN SCARS, RIGHT?
LET ME TAKE A LOOK AT YOUR STOMACH
YOU ABSORBED SOMEONE'S WOUND AGAIN, DIDN'T YOU?
ASATO!
I KNOW, I ALSO THOUGHT IT WAS COOL IN THE BEGINNING,
BUT QUIT USING THAT WEIRD POWER JUST BECAUSE YOU CAN.

No!

...WHAT'S WRONG?
AH...
?
THERE, ALL BETTER.
THANKS

KEIGO, COME OVER HERE FOR A SECOND.
F-FOR WHAT?
YOU JUST STUCK A BAND-AID ON
HOW'S THAT BETTER?
FINE THEN, YOUR EYES
HOW CAN YOU SAY THAT SO NORMALLY!?
MY MOUTH!?
I'M GOING TO STICK THAT RUDE MOUTH OF YOURS CLOSED
Gyaah!
EH!? WHAT DO YOU MEAN, ALL!?
AHH, REALLY, WHAT A BOTHER. FINE I'LL DO IT ALL

I WONDER WHAT ICE CREAM'S LEFT OVER TODAY—
THIS IS GOING TO BE GREAT, ASATO
YEAH

LET'S HURRY AND GET TO SHIHO'S SHOP.
CLACK
HEY,
IT'S BEEN A WHILE.

I'D HAD A BAD RUN-IN WITH THIS CREEP..
—A LONG TIME BACK, WHEN THINGS WERE BAD WITH MY DAD,
THIS GUY PUSHED ME OFF THE SECOND FLOOR OF THE SCHOOL.
HE'S BEEN HOSTILE TOWARDS ME FOR A LONG TIME
JUST IGNORE HIM...
STEP
I HEARD
YOUR DAD'S GONNA CROAK SOON, RIGHT?

CLACK

AND YOUR MOM'S GONE WANDERING OFF SOME-WHERE.
YOU'RE ALL SCREWED.

KEIGO ...!?
DASH
SHUT UP!
SLAM

I BET YOU'VE BEEN TAKING IT EASY EVER SINCE I GRADUATED
SORRY 'BOUT THAT
SHIT
WHAT, YOU DONE ALREADY?
...SAY SOME-THING
EVERYONE ALIENATES ME,
ALL THE CREEPS SINGLE ME OUT ...
AND IT'S ALL MY DAD'S FAULT.

SLAM
GAH!
THU
FAMILIES LIKE YOURS..
GOT NO REASON TO LIVE.
!
YANK
DON'T ...

UH!
crack
GH...
GH—
GAH!
SH

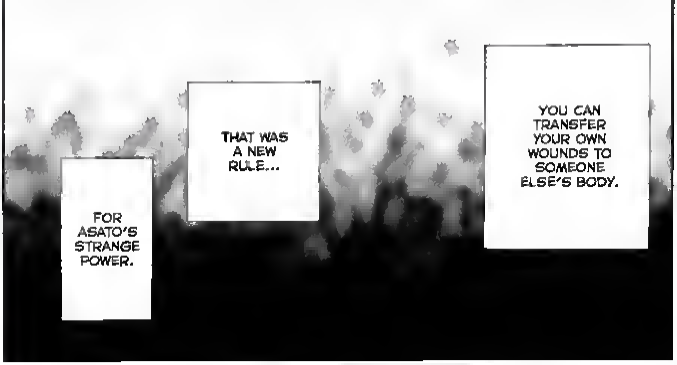
THUD

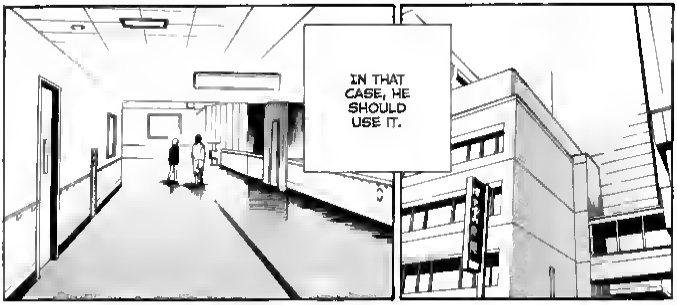
TAP
.....
LEAN
A... SATO?
CRACK
!? ... THE PAIN FADED!
DON'T TELL ME...

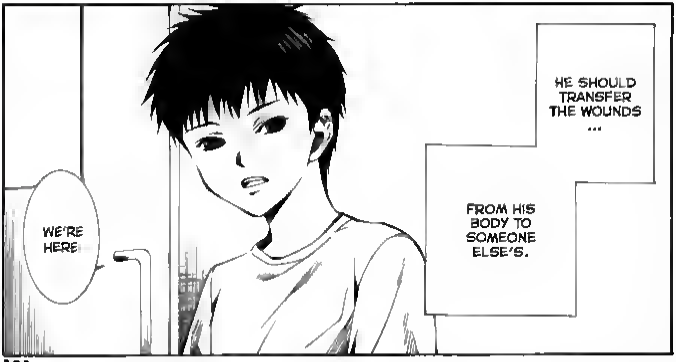
ASATO!
WHAT'S WITH YOU?
YOU GOT A PROBLEM OR SOME-THING?

CRACK
!!?
GAH?!

AAH!
AH!
AHH!
ASATO, LET'S GO!
HURRY!

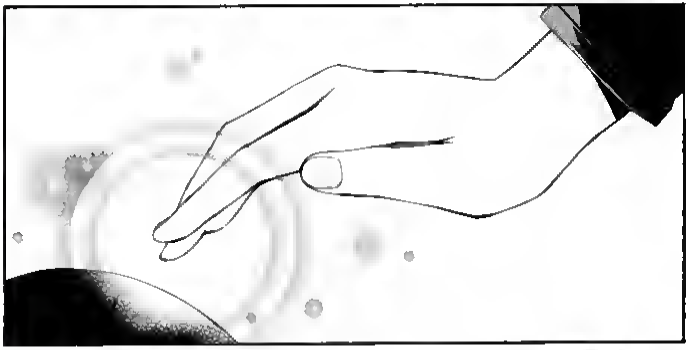

YOU CAN TRANSFER YOUR OWN WOUNDS TO SOMEONE ELSE'S BODY.
THAT WAS A NEW RULE...
FOR ASATO'S STRANGE POWER.

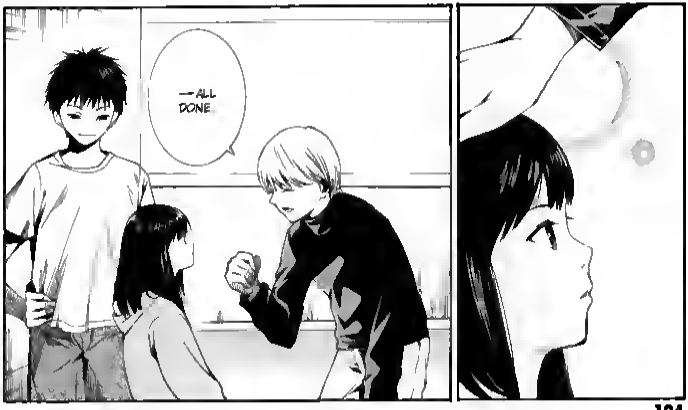

IN THAT CASE, HE SHOULD USE IT.


HE SHOULD TRANSFER THE WOUNDS ...
FROM HIS BODY TO SOMEONE ELSE'S.
WE'RE HERE!

MY DAD'S ROOM.
THE DOCTORS SAY HE PROBABLY WON'T WAKE UP AGAIN
BUT...
JUST DO IT!
DOESN'T THAT MAKE HIM THE PERFECT PLACE TO TRANSFER YOUR WOUNDS?
clack
bdmp
bdmp
bdmp

bdmp
KEIGO ...?
.....
JUST GO IN BY YOURSELF, ASATO.
EVERY LAST INJURY YOU'VE ABSORBED TILL NOW ..
SO TRANS-FER THEM ALL TO HIM
.....




—ALL DONE.

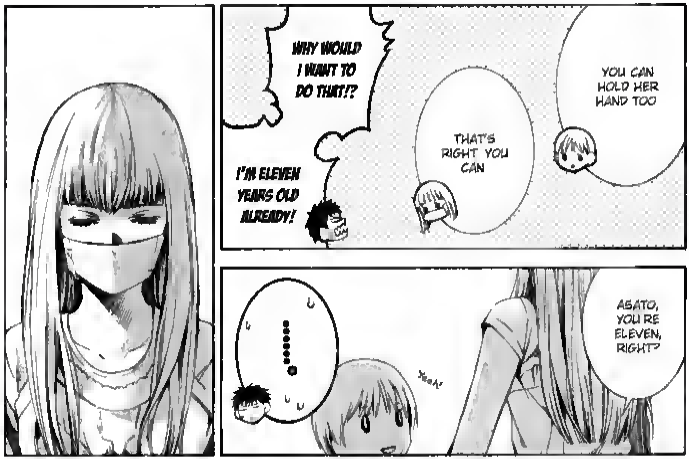
YOU'RE RIGHT...
Pediatric
IT DOESN'T HURT ANY-MORE.
NOW THAT WE HAD A PLACE TO TRANSFER THE WOUNDS ...
WE STARTED HEALING ANYONE WE WANTED.
THANK'S SO MUCH, YOU GUYS!

MAN, THAT WAS SO LUCKY!
ASATO,
HAVE SOME TOO
...I'M NOT REALLY HUNGRY
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
EVERYONE GAVE US CANDY TO THANK YOU FOR WHAT YOU DID.
...DOES IT BOTHER YOU THAT I WASN'T ABLE...
TO ABSORB ILLNESSES?
munch

...YOU CAN'T HELP WHAT YOU CAN'T DO
EVERYONE THANKED YOU ANYWAY
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
YEAH
WHAT ARE YOU TWO TALKING ABOUT?

OH MY, ASATO!
AS USUAL
SHIHO!
Y—
YOU'RE SO CUTE
SQUEEZE
.....

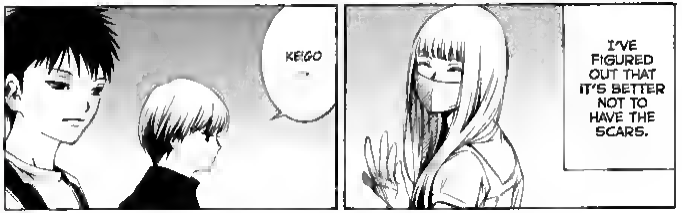
I MAN...
YOU REALLY DO SPOIL HIM, SHIHO
OH?
JEALOUS?
WH—WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT...


YOU CAN HOLD HER HAND TOO
THAT'S RIGHT YOU CAN
WHY WOULD I WANT TO DO THAT!?
I'M ELEVEN YEARS OLD ALREADY!
ASATO, YOU'RE ELEVEN, RIGHT?
.....
YEAH.

ASATO, YOU'RE A LOT LIKE...
MY YOUNGER BROTHER.

THOUGH HE...
DIED IN A FIRE...
YES.
A LITTLE ONE I GOT IN THAT FIRE.
IS THAT...
MASK TO COVER A BURN...?

SHIHO SMILED AS SHE SAID THAT, BUT...
...IT'S NOT TRUE.
YEAH
—SEE YA, THIS IS MY STREET.
"BECAUSE OF THIS BURN, I WILL NEVER FORGET MY BROTHER."


KEIGO
I'VE FIGURED OUT THAT IT'S BETTER NOT TO HAVE THE SCARS.

—BUT NOT NOW
ASATO COULD TAKE HER SCAR.

BUT HIS SHEETS AREN'T GOING TO COVER UP A BURN ON THE FACE...
THAT'S NO PROBLEM IF WE TRANSFER IT TO MY DAD'S BODY...
WHEN HE ASSORBED THE WOUNDS BEFORE, THEY APPEARED IN THE SAME SPOT ON HIM.

...WE'LL HAVE TO LEAVE IT FOR A BIT.

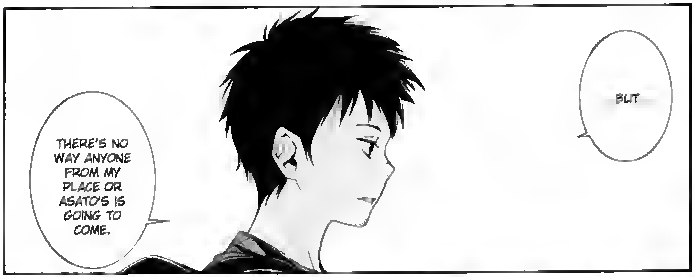
WE HAVE TO LOOK FOR THE RIGHT PLACE...
TO TRANSFER SHIKO'S BURN AFTER YOU ABSORB IT.

Ding
Dong

YEAH.

KEIGO
WHAT IS IT?
IT'S INFORMATION ABOUT PARENTS' DAY.
COULD YOU TAKE THIS TO ASATO'S HOUSE FOR ME?
NO ONE IN OUR CLASS IS REALLY STUDYING.
WHY ARE YOU HAVING PARENTS' DAY?
THANKS
Bleh

IT DOESN'T MATTER IF YOU STUDY OR NOT.
DON'T YOU THINK IT'S GREAT FOR KIDS
WHO ARE SEPARATED OUT FROM THE REGULAR CHILDREN TO TRY THEIR HARDEST TO IMPRESS THEIR PARENTS IN CLASS?


BUT
THERE'S NO WAY ANYONE FROM MY PLACE OR ASATO'S IS GOING TO COME.

WELL, WHATEVER
I'LL DROP IT OFF

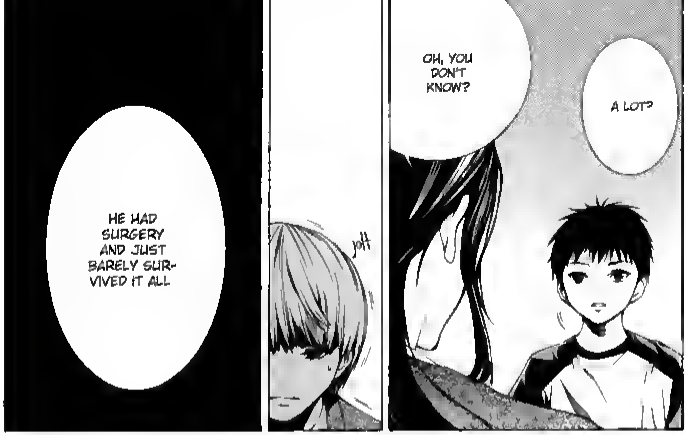
ASATO,
HEY.
YOU CAME HERE?
YOUR FRIEND'S HERE.
I SAW SOME OTHER KIDS HERE
YEAH.

DID HE ABSORB ANOTHER WOUND?
GEEZ.
IF YOU KNEW YOUR FRIEND WAS COMING OVER,
SHOULDN'T YOU REALLY HAVE CLEANED UP?
I DID TRY TO CLEAN YOU UP
THIS KID DIDN'T WANT TO. AND WOULDN'T UNDRESS
—THERE'S SOMETHING WEIRD ABOUT THIS PLACE.
IT'S LIKE NO ONE...
CAN SEE US.

ASATO ISN'T TALKING TO ANYONE,
AND NO ONE IN THE FAMILY IS TALKING TO HIM OR ANYTHING.

A SINGLE DROP,
ONE DARK STAIN,
HAS FALLEN ON A BRIGHT WATER-COLOR PAINTING.
—ASATO IS CUT OFF FROM EVERYTHING AROUND HIM.

...DO YOU KNOW ABOUT HIM?
HE'S BEEN THROUGH QUITE A LOT.

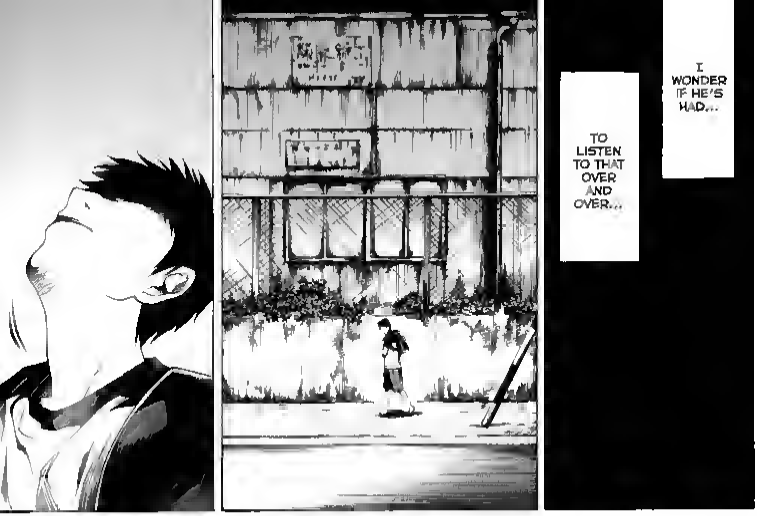

A LOT?
OH, YOU DON'T KNOW?
yuh
HE HAD SURGERY AND JUST BARELY SURVIVED IT ALL

HE WAS STABBED...

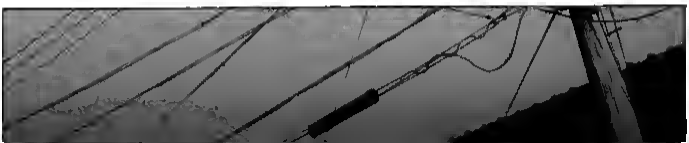
BY HIS MOTHER.

I HEARD THAT THE WHERE IT HAPPENED, THE PLACE WAS COMPLETELY COVERED IN BLOOD.
IT WAS A HUGE SURPRISE.
SHE ALWAYS SEEMED LIKE SUCH A NORMAL WOMAN TO ME, THOUGH...
SOUNDS LIKE A NOVEL OR DRAMA, DOESN'T IT?
CLATTER
SHE STABBED HER HUSBAND TO DEATH AND THEN EVEN TRIED TO KILL HER OWN SON —

DON'T ...
DON'T YOU EVER REPEAT THAT STORY IN PUBLIC AGAIN!
AH ...!
ASATO ...


I WONDER IF HE'S HAD...
TO LISTEN TO THAT OVER AND OVER...

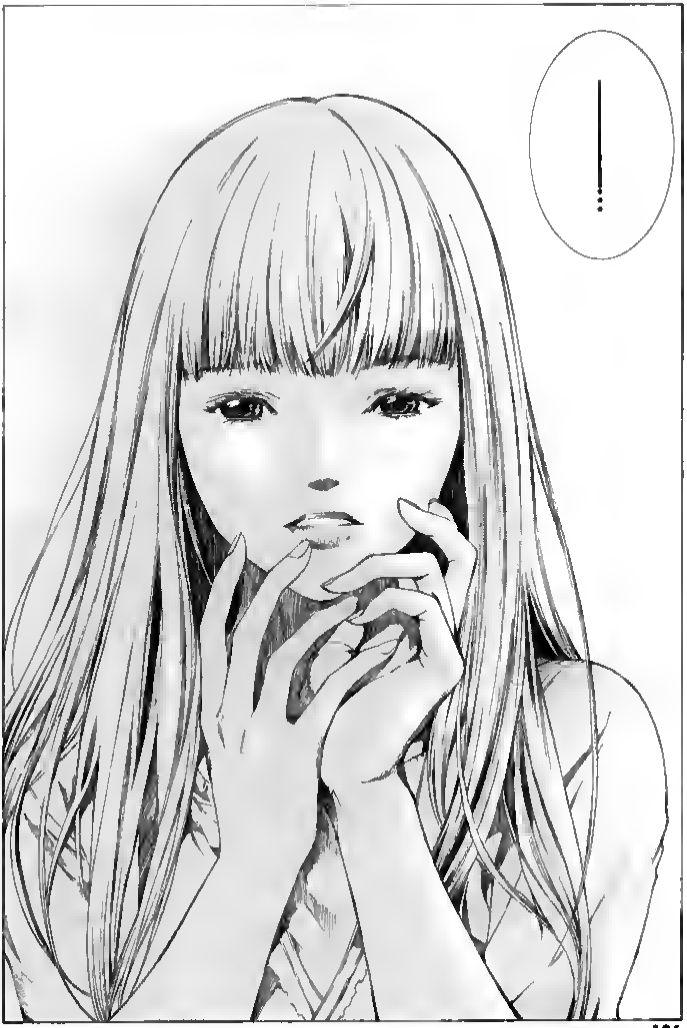
I CAN'T EVEN SEE THE STARS ...

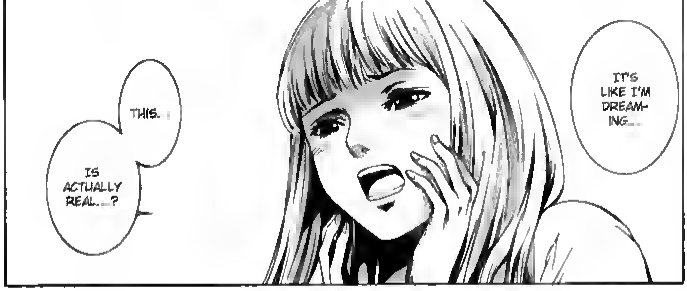


SHIHO?
—HER EYES ARE RED
WERE YOU CRYING?
AH...
...UH

SHIHO?
IN THIS WORLD.
THERE ARE MORE CRUEL THINGS...
THAN YOU CAN EVEN GUESS AT.
SQUEEZE
ASATO?
SLIDE

!
I HAVE THE ABILITY...
TO TRANSFER YOUR SCAR TO MYSELF.
SHIHO.
TRY TAKING OFF YOUR MASK...
...ASATO!?





WE WANTED TO SEE HER SMILE.

WANTED TO CHEER HER UP...

ASATO AND I...

SHIHO HAD GONE FROM THE CITY.
EVEN AFTER THE THREE DAYS,
THE BURN REMAINED ON ASATO'S FACE.

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presents

Kizu

Story Otsuichi
Art: Kiyohara Hiro

Scans & Translation
Kalendel
Cleaning
chelle
Edit
Voo

Chapter 3

...TO.
...SATO.
HEY,
ASATO...

.....
MOM?
AGATO...
JUMP

HAAH
HAAH
HAAH

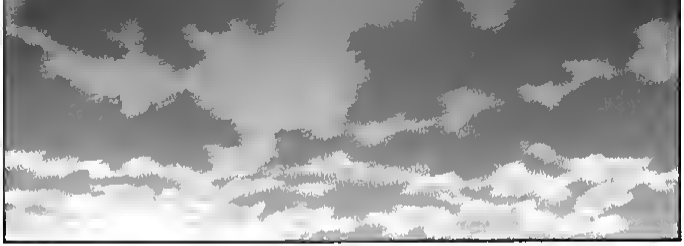
.....
WHAT—
AND THEN, WELL—

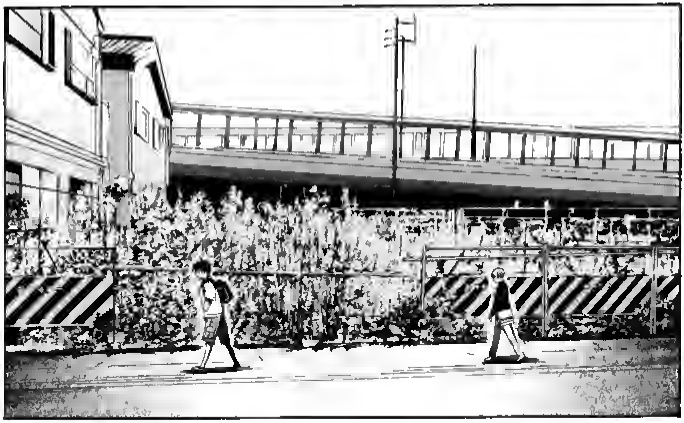
ASATO!
IT'S KINDA GROSS, RIGHT?
ISN'T IT A BURN?
WHAT'S UP WITH THAT SCAR?

PUT THIS ON.
HERE,

EVER SINCE HE TOOK ON SHIHO'S SCAR,
EVERY-ONE'S STARTED AVOID-ING HIM.
GO AHEAD AND PUT IT ON.
WHERE DID YOU GET IT ?
I BOR-ROWED IT FROM THE INFIRMARY.

I WONDER WHAT THE RELATIVES HE LIVES WITH. .
THINK ABOUT HIM SUDDENLY SHOWING UP WITH THAT BURN ON HIS FACE.





AGATO...?

FROM OVER THERE, WE COULD HEAR...
THE SOUND OF TABLE-WARE IN USE.
THE LAUGHTER OF A LITTLE KID.
A HAPPY FAMILY HAVING DINNER—...
.....
HEY...

I GUESS...
THAT MY MOM DIDN'T WANT ME
reach
QUIT IT.
WHY WOULD YOU SAY THAT?
...HEY.
YOU'RE GOING TO LIVE WITH HER WHEN SHE GETS OUT OF PRISON, RIGHT?

WHY ISN'T...
SHIHO COMING BACK—?

IT'S OUT OF OUR CONTROL
—I'M SURE...
THAT SHIHO ISN'T COMING BACK.
SHE COULDN'T BEAR IT
MY MOM COULDN'T—

WHY
DOES IT HURT THIS MUCH...?

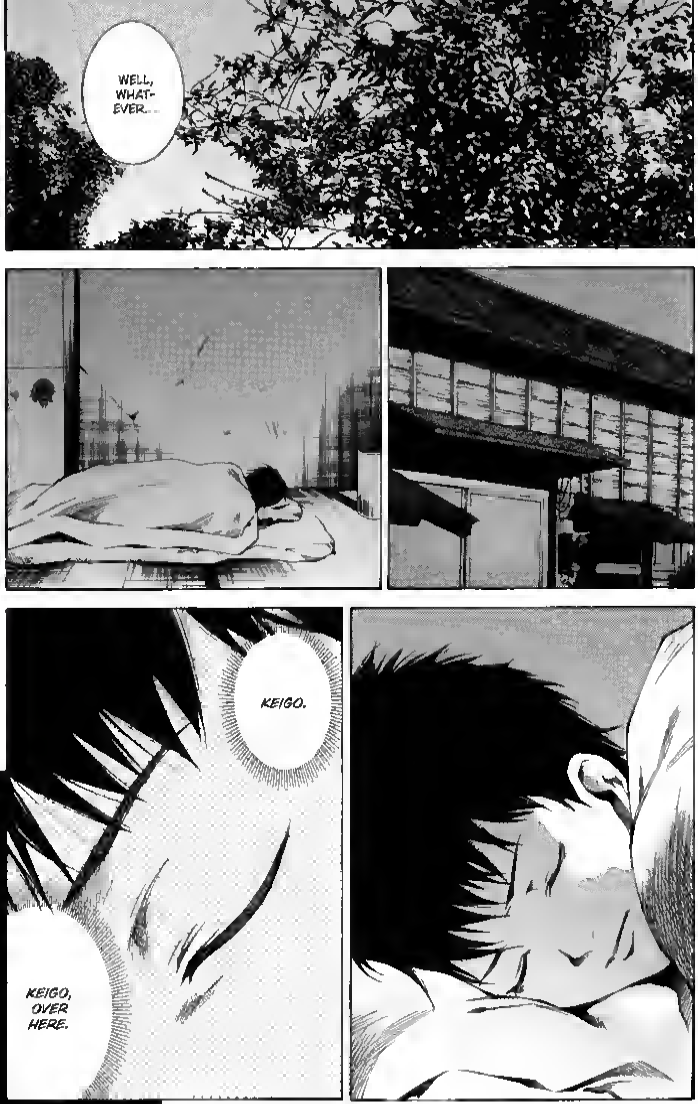
WHY...

DOES IT HURT THIS MUCH...?

THAT BOX...
IS YOUR DAD'S STUFF. BUT HE DOESN'T NEED IT ANYMORE.
THROW IT OUT AND HURRY BACK HOME.
GAHHH!
—GEEZ, WHAT'S IN HERE!?
IT'S SO HEAVY!

EVERYONE HATED MY DAD.
THEY ALL SAID...
THAT THEY HOPE HE DIES SOON.
CLATTER

I STILL REMEMBER HIM WHEN HE WAS NICE.
...BUT...
THOUGH I DON'T REMEMBER HIM BUYING ME A DOG...
rustle
HE MADE ME A DOG HOUSE,
AND GENTLY PAT MY HEAD.
DID SOMETHING JUST GET STUCK...?
.....
?


WELL, WHAT-EVER...
KEIGO.
KEIGO, OVER HERE.

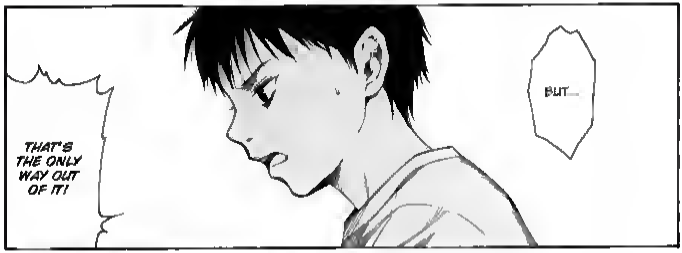
QUICKLY NOW,
THIS WAY!
WHEN MY DAD GOT REALLY VIOLENT AND SCARY,
MY MOM AND I USUALLY FLED THE HOUSE
MOM!
I THINK...
YOUR FATHER SHOULD BE IN A BETTER MOOD BY NOW.

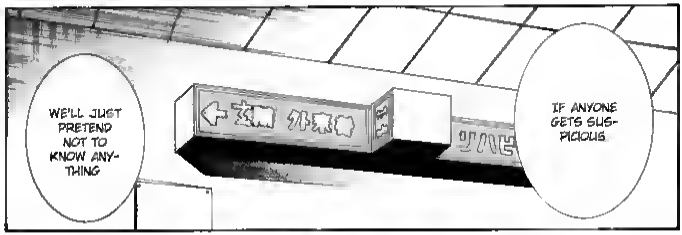
AREN'T YOU BARE-FOOT, MOM?
OH!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
KEIGO?
WHAT HAP-PENED TO YOUR SHOES?
OOPS...
Let me put them on.
What?!
NOW!?
LET'S GO HOME.
KEIGO.

WHY ISN'T SHE COMING BACK...?
HAAH
HAAH
ASATO
HAAH
WE HAVE TO HURRY...
HERE.
PUT THIS ON
AND DO SOME-THING ABOUT THE BURN ON ASATO'S FACE.

...BUT WHEN I HAD ASATO PUT THAT MASK ON,
IT MADE ME FEEL BETTER.
HE COVERED UP THE SCAR THAT WAS TOO UGLY TO LOOK AT...
AND I FELT BETTER...

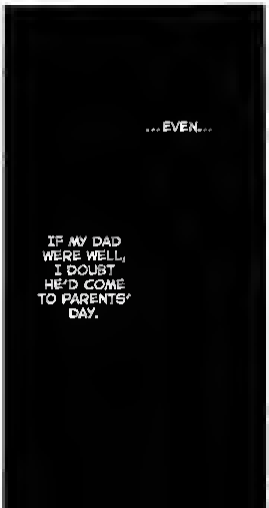
ASATO
K. KEIGO?
HEY, WHAT'S WRONG?
TRANSFER THAT SCAR ON YOUR CHEEK
TO MY DAD!

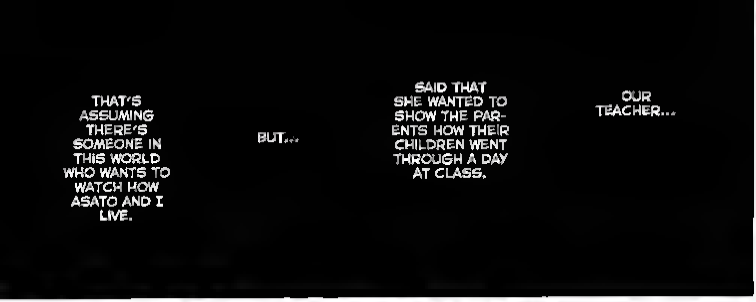

BUT...
THAT'S THE ONLY WAY OUT OF IT!


WE'LL JUST PRETEND NOT TO KNOW ANY-THING
IF ANYONE GETS SUS-PICIOUS

WE HAVE TO FOIST IT OFF ON SOMEONE ELSE!
WE HAVE TO GET THAT SCAR OFF OF YOU!

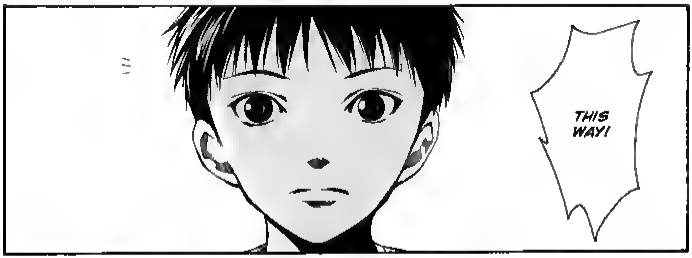
WE CAN'T LET OURSELVES...
GET ANY WORSE OFF THAN WE ARE NOW!!


...EVEN...
IF MY DAD WERE WELL, I DOUBT HE'D COME TO PARENTS' DAY.


THAT'S ASSUMING THERE'S SOMEONE IN THIS WORLD WHO WANTS TO WATCH HOW ASATO AND I LIVE.
BUT...
SAID THAT SHE WANTED TO SHOW THE PARENTS HOW THEIR CHILDREN WENT THROUGH A DAY AT CLASS.
OUR TEACHER...

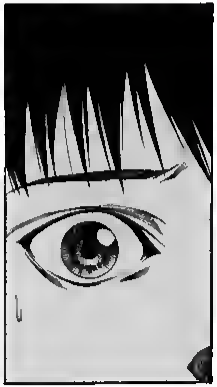
AND GO TO SCHOOL...
THAT WE WERE BORN, LIVE IN THIS CITY,

NO ONE GIVES A DAMN ABOUT ANY OF THAT.


THIS WAY!

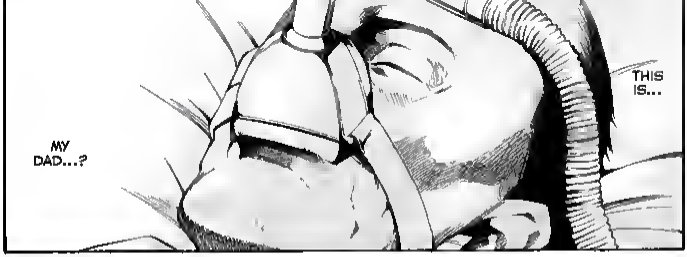
?
THAT'S MY DAD'S ROOM...

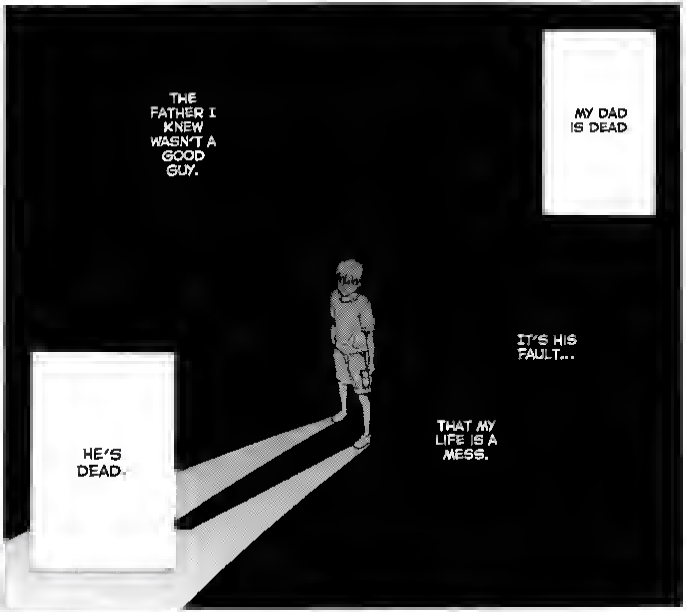
DON'T TELL ME——
dash



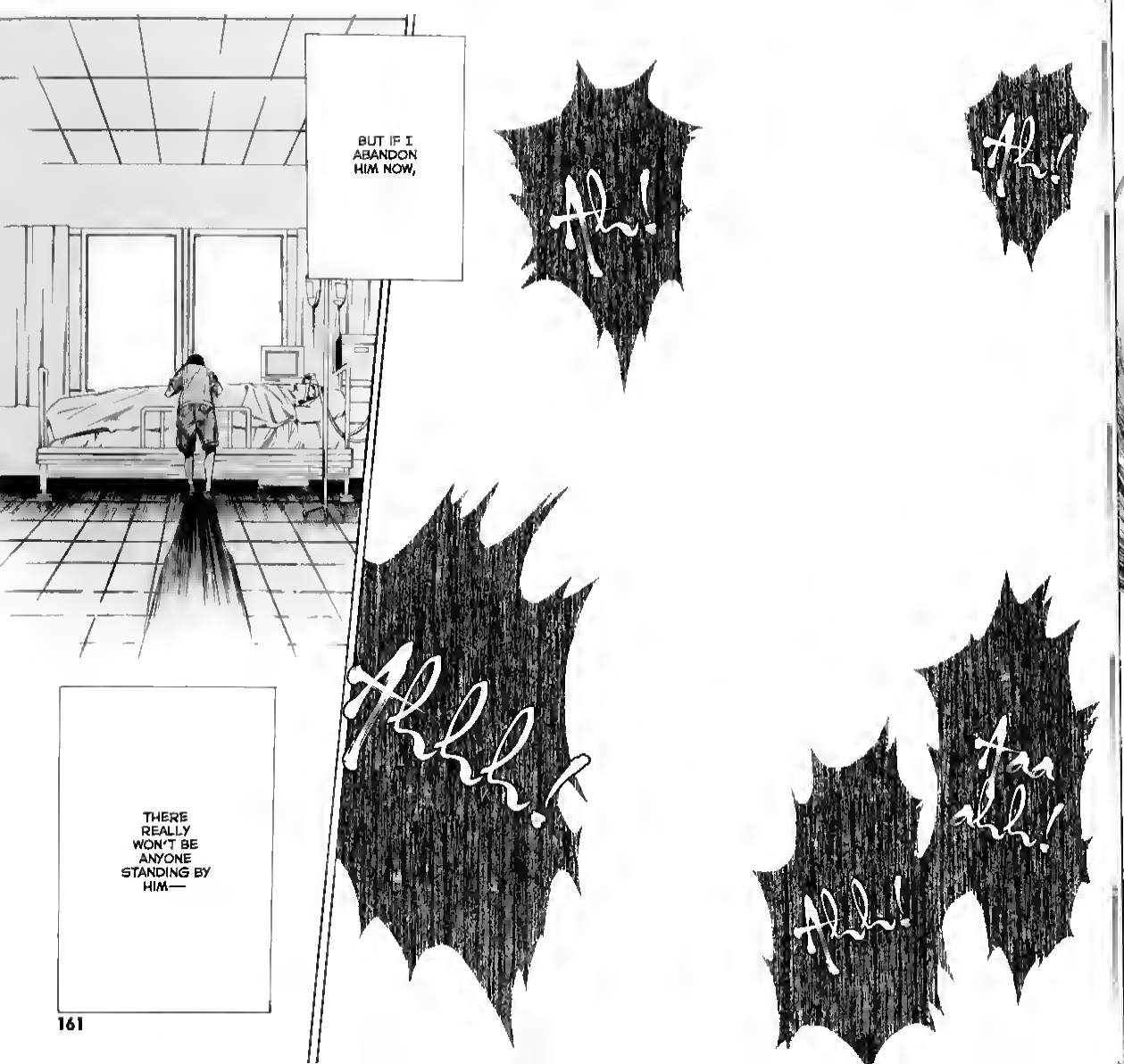
clack
WHO ARE YOU?

beeeeep
DAD...?


MY DAD...?
THIS IS...


THE FATHER I KNEW WASN'T A GOOD GUY.
MY DAD IS DEAD
IT'S HIS FAULT...
THAT MY LIFE IS A MESS.
HE'S DEAD.

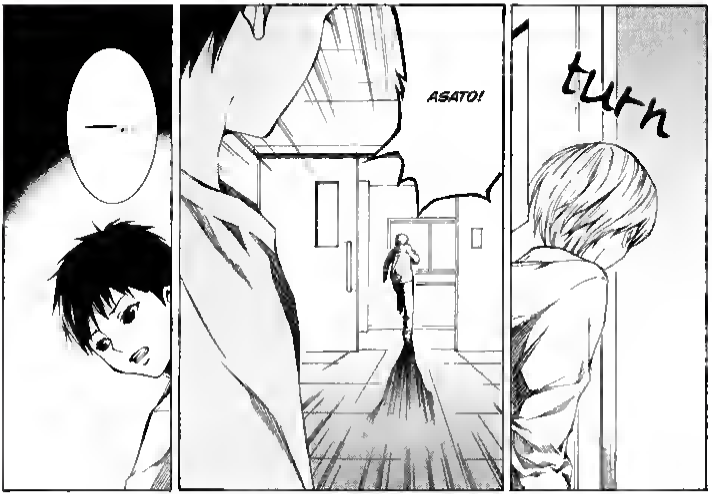
—BUT...


BUT IF I ABANDON HIM NOW,
Ah!
Ah!
Ahh!
THERE REALLY WON'T BE ANYONE STANDING BY HIM—
Ahh!
Aaa ahh!
Ahh!
BUT...

...ASATO
ALL THE WOUNDS YOU'VE TRANSFERRED TO MY DAD SO FAR...
PLEASE TRANSFER THEM TO ME...
I FEEL...
LIKE WE CAN'T LET HIM DIE WITH HIS BODY ALL TORN UP LIKE THIS

.....
...I'M SORRY...

I CAN'T DO THAT...


—...
ASATO!
turn

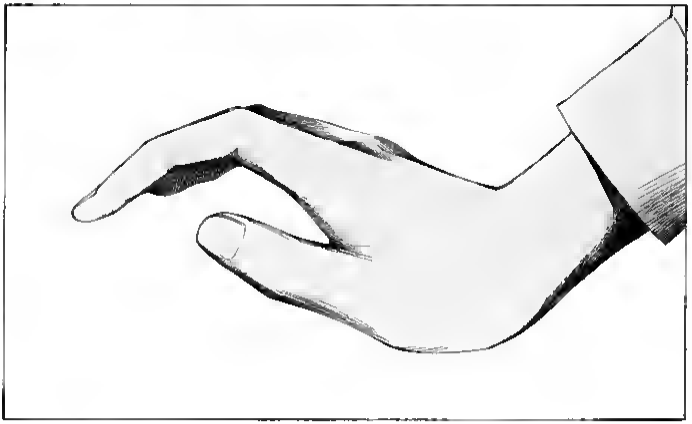
HE COULDN'T HAVE...
YANK
!?
HEY!
WHAT ARE YOU...

THERE ARE NO WOUNDS,
AND NO SCARS FROM HIS SURGERY EITHER
ASATO NEVER DID TRANSFER ANY WOUNDS TO MY FATHER.
HE PRETENDED TO, BUT HE LEFT THEM ALL ON HIMSELF
THE PAIN,
AND THE SUFFERING,
ALL OF IT

ASATO...!

DID HE GO...?
JUST WHERE ...
WHAT'S THIS?

IT'S LIKE A DREAM
IT'S TRUE, LOOK AT ME!
IT'S THE SAME FOR ME.
LIM,
MY WOUND'S GONE
NO WAY...



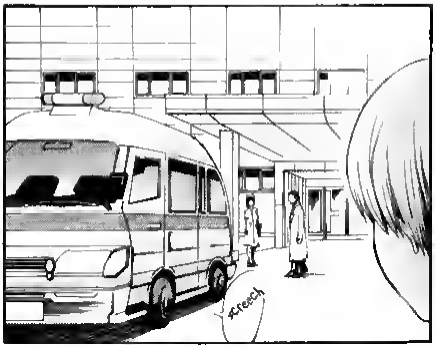
crack
crick
ASATO!
DASH

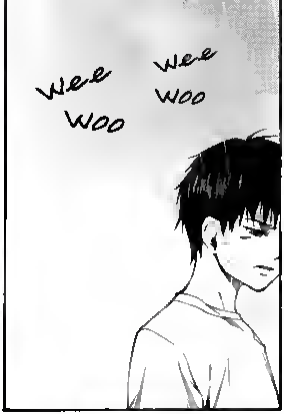
HAAH
HAAH
HAAH
drip
drip
ABATO,
WHAT ARE YOU DOING...?
sssssttt

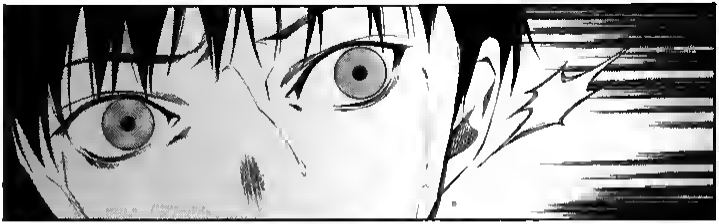
SINCE I REALLY AM A KID NOBODY WANTS...
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
IF THEY WERE IN PAIN AND SUFFERING ....
THEN IT'S BETTER THIS WAY.
slide
.....
LOOK AT THIS
flap

ON THE NIGHT THAT MY MOM KILLED MY DAD,
I WAS SLEEPING IN BED
SHE GENTLY SHOOK ME AWAKE
MY MOM...
HAD A KNIFE IN HER HAND,
AND...

AND SHE—
IT'S ENOUGH ALREADY. I...
DON'T WANT TO LIVE ANY LONGER...


screech


wee woo
wee woo



GRAB
STOP!

ASATO!

SORRY

thud
MY LEG...
GAH!

spike
OW...!

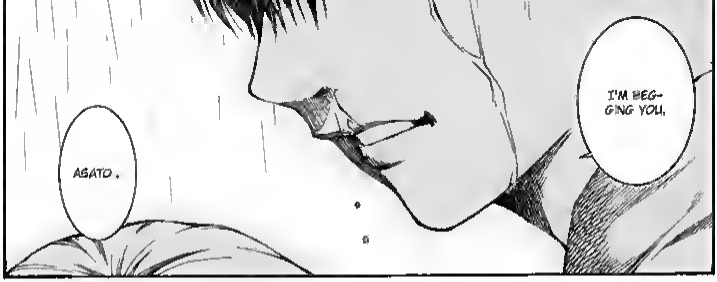
YOU'D USUALLY NEVER HURT ANYONE...
A...
SA... TO...

HE... PLANS TO DIE.
SO BEFORE HE DOES,
HE'LL TAKE ON AS MANY BIG WOUNDS AS HE CAN...
crawl
STOP IT!
STOP IT.
ASATO!
crack

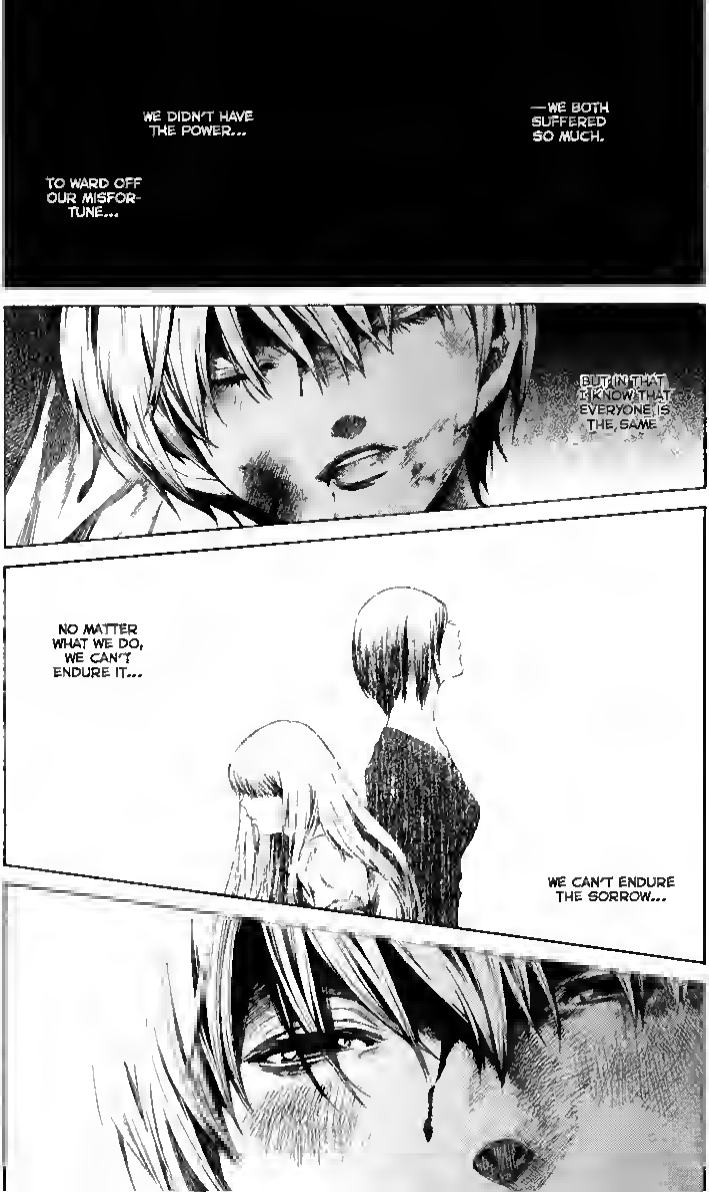
DON'T DO IT——

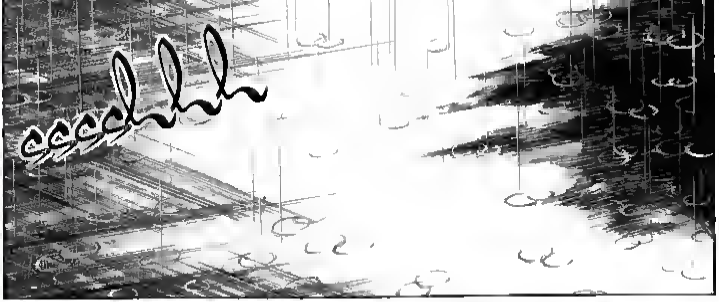
wobble
?
ASATO...?
ASATO!

ASATO ...?
THE SECOND TIME SPLITS IT EVENLY... REMEMBER?
LET ME HAVE...
HALF OF YOUR WOUNDS
IF YOU DO THAT, THEY'LL CUT HALF AS DEEP...
drip
AND HURT HALF AS MUCH...

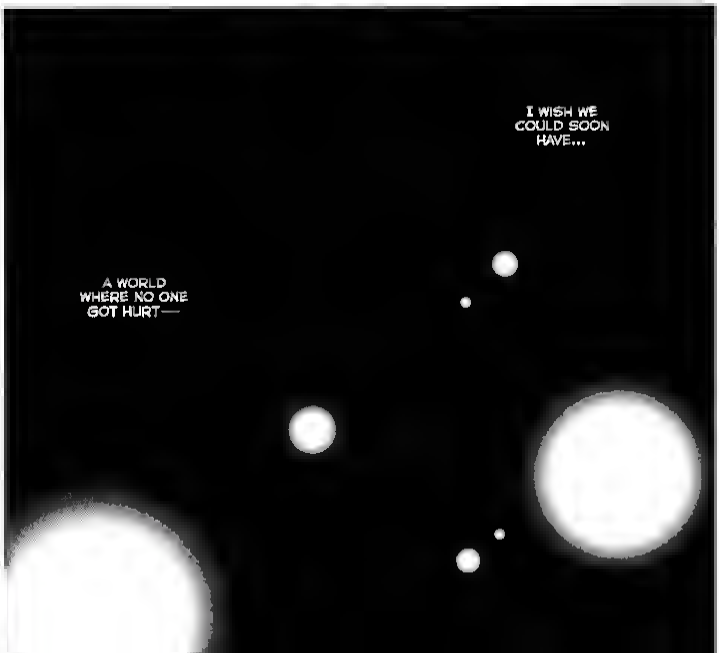

I'M BEG-
GING YOU.
ASATO.

ASA-
TOOO...


WE DIDN'T HAVE THE POWER...
TO WARD OFF OUR MISFORTUNE...
—WE BOTH SUFFERED SO MUCH.
BUT IN THAT I KNOW THAT EVERYONE IS THE SAME
NO MATTER WHAT WE DO, WE CAN'T ENDURE IT...
WE CAN'T ENDURE THE SORROW...


cccchhh

I PRAYED.


I WISH WE COULD SOON HAVE...
A WORLD WHERE NO ONE GOT HURT—

www.storminheaven.net
presents

Kizu

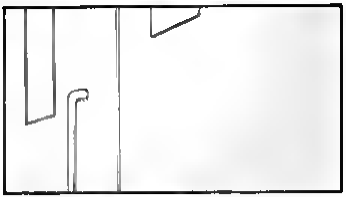
Story Otsuichi
Art: Kiyohara Hiro

Scans & Translation
Kalendel
Edit
Voo

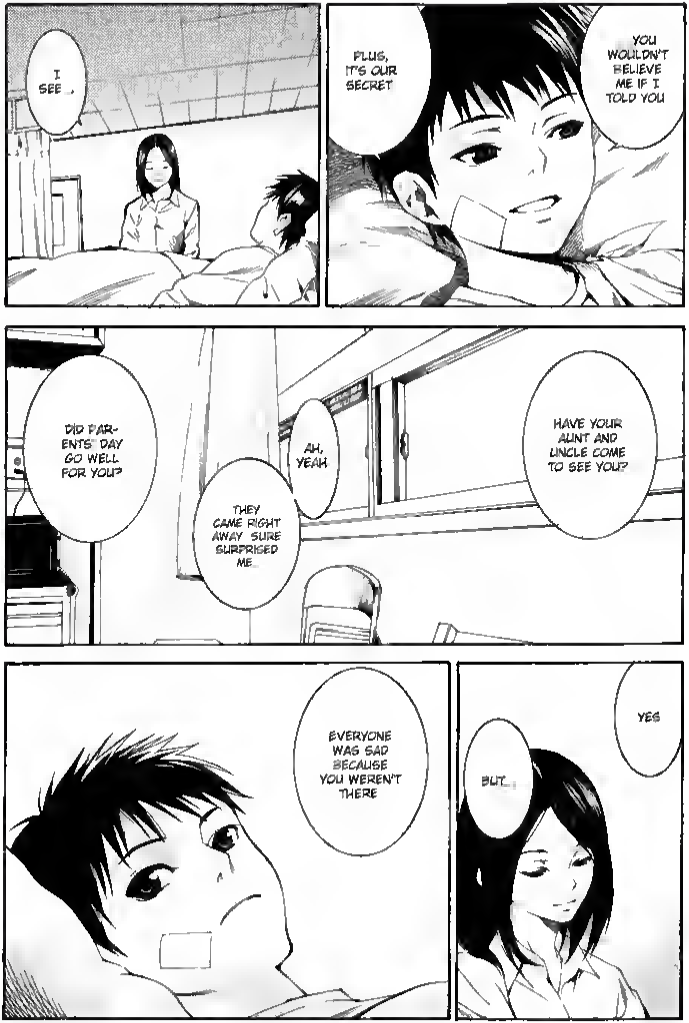
Chapter 4

Ikegami Central Hospital

KEIGO



YOU WON'T TELL ME WHAT HAPPENED?

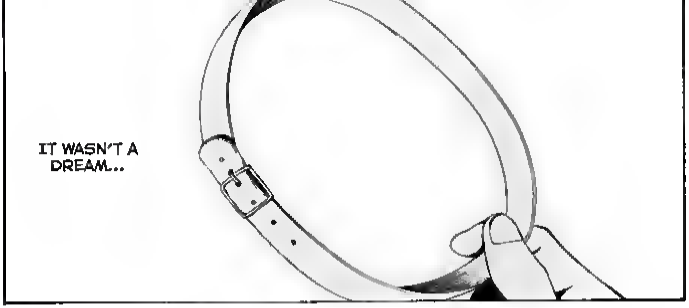

I SEE.
PLUS, IT'S OUR SECRET
YOU WOULDN'T BELIEVE ME IF I TOLD YOU
DID PARENTS' DAY GO WELL FOR YOU?
AH, YEAH
THEY CAME RIGHT AWAY SURE SURPRISED ME...
HAVE YOUR AUNT AND UNCLE COME TO SEE YOU?
EVERYONE WAS SAD BECAUSE YOU WEREN'T THERE
YES
BUT...

.....
NO WAY I'D BELIEVE THAT
IT'S TRUE
EVERYONE'S WAITING FOR YOU TO COME BACK
I AM TOO. OF COURSE
SO HURRY UP AND COME BACK
MA'AM.

THANK YOU...
I'M OFF
TELL ASATO HELLO FOR ME
—YOU HEARD HER,
ASATO

WOW!
THIS IS AMAZ-ING!
IT LOOKS SO SMALL
THAT'S OUR SCHOOL.
TAKE A LOOK, KEIGO!
.....

HM...
I'M SURE IT WAS AROUND HERE.
...
DID SOMETHING JUST GET STUCK...?
BACK WHEN I THREW OUT MY DAD'S THINGS.
SOMETHING GOT STUCK HALFWAY DOWN THE HOLE.
rustle
rustle
HUH?
IT'S BEEN BOTHERING ME EVER SINCE...
JUST EXACTLY WHAT THAT WAS...
!
rustle



I DIDN'T JUST MAKE THAT MEMORY UP.

WHAT IS IT...?
AH!
THIS IS FOR YOU.
PUMP
OUR TEACHER BROUGHT IT EARLIER,
SINCE I HADN'T FINISHED IT.
IT TOOK ME A WHILE, WITH MY ARM STUCK IN A CAST LIKE THIS...

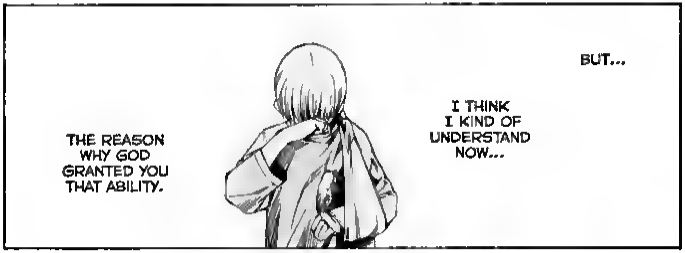
...ASATO?

EVEN THOUGH I'M NOT IN PAIN
I'M CRYING

WH--
WHY'RE YOU CRYING!?

...I DON'T KNOW...
BUT...

I'D WONDERED WHY...
ONLY ASATO HAS THAT ABILITY OF HIS...
.....


THE REASON WHY GOD GRANTED YOU THAT ABILITY.
BUT...
I THINK I KIND OF UNDERSTAND NOW...

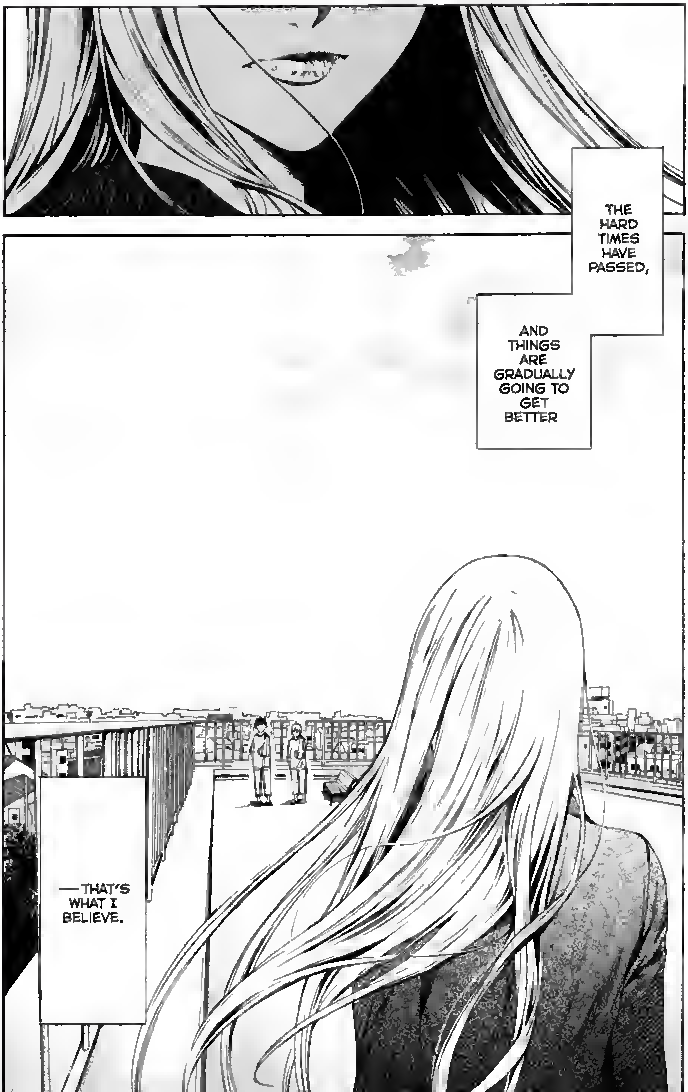
ASATO...
THANK YOU.

I CAN SEE IT WHEN I LOOK AT YOU...

?
BACK THEN, YOU SAID THAT YOU WEREN'T WANTED, BUT...
—THAT ISN'T TRUE.

YOUR KINDNESS...
YOU'RE GOING TO HELP A LOT OF PEOPLE.
SAVED A GUY LIKE ME FROM THE DARKNESS.

SO...
YOU AREN'T UNWANTED AT ALL.
...IT'S GOTTEN COLD OUT.
WANT TO HEAD BACK TO THE ROOM?
THAT'S ...
KEIGO...


THE HARD TIMES HAVE PASSED,
AND THINGS ARE GRADUALLY GOING TO GET BETTER
—THAT'S WHAT I BELIEVE.

AFTERWORD

OTSUICHI

I WROTE THE NOVEL VERSION OF "KIZU" WHEN I WAS IN MY FOURTH YEAR OF COLLEGE. BACK THEN, THE PROBLEM I HAD WAS "I DON'T KNOW WHAT I SHOULD WRITE." PRIOR TO "KIZU", I HAD WRITTEN TWO SHORT STORIES ("KIMI NI SHIKA KIKOEHAI", "SHIAWASE WA KONEKO NO KATACHI") IN WHICH I HAD INSTILLED THE THEMES THAT I HAD WANTED TO WRITE. BECAUSE OF THIS, I SAT AROUND ABSENTMINDEDLY PEELING ORANGES INSTEAD OF PUBLISHING. EVEN SO, REQUESTS FROM WORK KEEP COMING. I GOT THE FEELING THAT EVEN IF YOU'RE A NEW AUTHOR LIKE I WAS, OR IF YOU DON'T HAVE ANYTHING TO WRITE, YOU HAVE TO PERIODICALLY WRITE THINGS. THUS, HALFWAY AGAINST MY WILL, I DEVISED THE STORY "KIZU".

WHY DID A WRITE A STORY LIKE THIS? IT WAS MOST LIKELY THE INFLUENCE OF THE WORKS OF TORY HAYDEN, WHICH I READ IN MY TEENS. WHEN I WAS IN HIGH SCHOOL, I WOULD ALWAYS SPEND MY LUNCH HOUR AT THE LIBRARY, AND IT WAS THERE THAT I HAPPENED TO PICK UP HER BOOK "SOMEBODY ELSE'S KIDS". I WASN'T PLANNING ON READING IT THROUGH, JUST ENOUGH TO GET THE ESSENCE OF THE FIRST BIT, AND THEN I WAS GOING TO PUT IT BACK ON THE SHELF. HOWEVER, WHEN IT STARTED TO GET EXCEPTIONALLY INTERESTING, I WASN'T ABLE TO PUT IT DOWN.

TORY HAYDEN IS AN AMERICAN CHILD PSYCHOLOGIST WHO TEACHES A CLASS FOR SPECIAL NEEDS CHILDREN. SHE COLLECTED HER INTERACTIONS WITH THE CHILDREN INTO SEVERAL BOOKS, ONE OF WHICH BEING "SOMEBODY ELSE'S KIDS". HER BOOKS MOSTLY TOOK PLACE IN THE CLASSROOM. THEY DELVE INTO THE ISSUE OF CHILD ABUSE. YOU MAY WONDER HOW STORIES LIKE THAT ARE INTERESTING, BUT THERE ARE SMILES, AND TEARS, AND ENTERTAINMENT. I DEVOURED TORY HAYDEN'S WORKS WITH A PASSION. I GRIEVED AFTER I HAD FINISHED READING THEM ALL, "JUST WHO AM I SUPPOSED TO READ FROM THIS POINT ON?" I ALSO VOWED TO MYSELF, "STARTING NOW, I WILL REREAD TORY HAYDEN'S BOOKS EACH YEAR ON MY BIRTHDAY." I ONLY DID THAT FOR TWO YEARS, HOWEVER. THE SPECIAL NEEDS CHILDREN AND UNHAPPY PEOPLE I INTRODUCED IN "KIZU" ARE ENTIRELY DUE TO TORY HAYDEN'S WORKS.

IN MY FOURTH YEAR OF COLLEGE, WHEN I COULDN'T FIND A THEME I WANTED TO WRITE ON BUT NEVERTHELESS HAD TO WRITE A NOVEL, I COULD SAY THAT I HELD ON TO MY PERSONAL READING EXPERIENCE. MY GOAL BECAME WANTING TO WRITE WORKS LIKE THAT. IF YOU SHOULD ALSO COME ACROSS A BOOK BY TORY HAYDEN AT YOUR LIBRARY, PLEASE DO PICK IT UP. IN CONCLUSION, I WOULD LIKE TO THANK KIYOHARA FOR THE BEAUTIFUL ARTWORK IN THIS BOOK.

Kadokawa Comics A

傷（きず）

原作 乙一

漫画 清原紘

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傷

小学校の特殊学級に所属する、ケイゴとアサト。少年たちは大人たちから押しつけられた 傷も 痛みも、何もかもすべて、自分の殻の中に閉じこめていた。追いつめられた二人が出会う、イノセントストーリー。

原作 乙一

漫画 清原紘

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